

In the Specifications

- Page 2, line 21-28

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The pedicle screw can further comprises a compression member between the elongate member and the head; the head having a second convex portion facing the compression member and the compression member having a second concave portion facing the head, the second concave portion having a radius of curvature less than a radius of curvature of the second convex portion whereby to create an interference fit between the head and the pressure member.

- Page 4, line 16-30

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Tests of the deflection of the screw 12 under a torque load versus a prior screw show a significant decrease in deflection versus the prior screw, thus less slippage and better locking. Tables 1 and 2 show the results of tests of screws with and without the interference fit. The seven screws in table 1 were formed of stainless steel and the seven screws in Table 2 of titanium. The screws labeled Magnum contain the interference fit and the others did not. The screws are of similar dimensions; the numbers listed after the screw refer to the rod size. The tests consist of locking the screws to a uniform torque and then applying a lateral force to the screw 12 to induce a torque at the head 16. The load at an offset of 0.5mm and the stiffness were assessed for each sample. The screws with the interference fit of the present invention exhibited gains in both parameters.